

# NYC CoC Newsletter

April 8, 2020

Issue No. 14

**NYC** Continuum  
**CoC** of Care



## The NYC CoC & COVID-19

### CARES Act Grants New York City \$50 Million in ESG Funding

#### Federal Stimulus Package Allocates more than \$150 Million to NYC HUD-Funded Programs

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was passed and signed into law on March 27 to respond to the coronavirus pandemic. It will provide \$2 trillion total in financial aid, including \$12 billion in funding for programs funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

On April 2, HUD announced a portion of the relief fund for New York City: \$50 million for ESG, \$102 million for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), and \$6 million for Housing for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). More funding allocation will be released by June 25.

This CARES Act allocated \$4 billion total for Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) for homelessness assistance. Several additional HUD programs received allocations, including \$5 billion in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), \$65 million for Housing for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). Additionally, HUD granted \$1.25 billion for the Housing Choice Voucher program, \$1 billion for project based rental assistance, \$685 million for public housing, \$300 million for tribal nations, \$50 million for Section 202 Housing for the Elderly, and \$15 million for Section 811 Housing for Persons with Disabilities.

## CoC-Related Updates

CoC-related meetings will continue to be virtual for the month of April

Please contact the HUD Field Office or [Charlie Winkler](#) on questions related to contract renewals and "extend to spend."

## Job Openings within the CoC

#### *Jericho Project*

Multiple positions offered [view current job listing by clicking here.](#)

#### *New Destiny*

Multiple positions offered [view current job listings by clicking here.](#)

The bill also institutes a temporary moratorium on evictions and foreclosures for homeowners and renters in federally subsidized apartments and homes with federally backed mortgages. [Read the National Housing Law Project's summary on the moratorium.](#)

To learn more about how this bill affects HUD programs, [read the National Low Income Housing Coalition's full analysis.](#)

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### Available HUD Waivers for Specific CPD Grant Programs

HUD is now allowing waivers for specific Community Planning and Development (CPD) grant programs to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to facilitate assistance to eligible communities and households economically impacted by COVID-19.

[Read the HUD Memorandum to learn more about the explanation and process of these waivers on the HUD Exchange.](#) This memorandum covers waivers for all CPD formula programs and program-specific waivers for the following programs: Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA); Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG); and Continuum of Care (CoC). Please be advised that the NYC CoC will be distributing additional guidance to coordinated requests.

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### SAMHSA Offers Emergency Grants to Address Mental and Substance Use Disorders during COVID-19

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is accepting applications for Emergency Grants to Address Mental and Substance Use Disorders During COVID-19 (Emergency COVID-19). The purpose of this program is to provide crisis intervention services, mental and substance use disorder treatment, crisis counseling, and other related supports for children and adults impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding will be provided for states, territories, and tribes to develop comprehensive systems to address these needs. The purpose of this program is specifically to address the needs of individuals with serious mental illness, individuals with substance use disorders, and/or individuals with co-occurring serious mental illness and substance use disorders. [Learn more about this grant.](#)

#### **Application Due Date: Friday, April 10, 2020**

SAMHSA plans to issue 60 grants of up to \$2 million per State or up to \$500,000 for Territories and Tribes for 16 months.

### **Sheltering Arms**

**Multiple positions offered** [view current job listing by clicking here.](#)

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### **Urban Resource Institute**

**Multiple positions offered** [view current job listing by clicking here](#)



Stay informed on  
COVID-19

*Please regularly visit the NYC CoC COVID-19 Resources page for more information on planning and response from our city, state, and national stakeholders.*



## NYC CoC RELATED NEWS

### Notice of Funding Availability FY 2019 Tier 2 Awards

#### *HUD Awards the NYC CoC Approximately \$125 Million to Local Homeless Programs*

On March 13, HUD announced the Tier 2 Results of NOFA FY 2019, which included Renewal, New, and Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus projects. [View a complete list of New York City Continuum of Care \(NY-600\) projects awarded in the 2019 NOFA.](#)

The Tier 2 results awarded approximately \$118 million in grants to 630 local housing and service programs across the U.S., Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. These Continuum of Care (CoC) grants support the efforts to end homelessness and build upon the \$2.1 billion in funding HUD awarded through a first round of funding (Tier 1) in January 2020. [View a complete list of projects awarded funding to all U.S. states and territories.](#)

Appeals of award determinations must be made by Monday, April 27, 2020 at 5 PM EDT. [See Section X of the FY 2019 NOFA for more details.](#)

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### Performance Management Upcoming Meetings:

**The Performance Management Committee** will meet on **April 17 at 12:30 p.m.** to discuss the 2020 Evaluation results, the policies and procedures of sub-committees and workgroups, and the HUD High-Performing Community criterion to adopt for the NYC CoC this calendar year. Logistics for the meeting will be sent in early April.

**The Evaluation Workgroup** meeting that was scheduled for March 24 was cancelled to enable providers to continue response and planning activities around COVID-19. The Evaluation Workgroup will meet on **April 21**. An invitation will be sent to the organizations that responded to the Evaluation Workgroup Survey sent in early March requesting an expression of interest and commitment. Meeting agenda and logistics will be sent in early April.

If you have any questions about these committees, please contact [Charlie Winkler](#) or [Howard Charton](#).

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### Foothold & HMIS:

#### *Foothold Notes:*

- Foothold has implemented a new **COVID-19 Awareness Screening Form**, which was developed for providers to use as a generic screening tool. This tool is not intended to be a medical screening or diagnostic tool, rather it is intended to help programs manage their work around COVID-19 education and screening. For instructions on how to download or modify the form, please visit the COVID-19 Response Center in 'AWARDS Online Help.'
- Foothold anticipates that the current crisis could result in atypical usage patterns from your staff. As such, they have put a temporary freeze on license monitoring. You should use AWARDS as much as you need to right now and not worry about going over your maximum licenses. Foothold will re-evaluate this policy at the end of April.
- As a result of the recent emergence of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) most nonessential workers have had to relocate from their home offices, many of which access NYC HMIS. It is important to remember that all access to the database must be HIPAA compliant. Please consult with your IT unit to ensure your agency issued or personal devices abide to the required guidelines. [Visit the NYC HMIS page.](#)

#### **HMIS Resources:**

- [COVID-19 HMIS Setup and Data Sharing Practices](#)
- [Privacy and Security Standards and COVID-19 Response](#)

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## **COVID-19 RELATED RESOURCES FOR HOMELESS SERVICES PROVIDERS**

#### **NYC Government Agencies:**

- NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene: [Interim COVID-19 guidance for Homeless Shelters](#)
- [List of suspensions and reductions of NYC Agencies](#)
- [Important Information from Human Resources Administration:](#)
  - All eviction proceedings are temporarily suspended by the courts until further notice. This means that you will not need to apply for back rent to stop an eviction until further notice.
  - All utility companies are temporarily suspending utility shut-offs until further notice. You do not need to apply for Emergency Assistance (a one-shot deal) because your electricity, gas or oil for heat, will not be turned off for non-payment, even if you get a notice that your service will end, until further notice.

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## U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development:

- [HUD Resource Guide on using Continuum of Care program funds for infectious disease preparedness and response](#)
  - (disponible en español también: [acceda Uso de fondos del programa Continuum of Care para la preparacion y respuesta a enfermedades infecciosas](#)).
- [Infectious Disease Toolkit for CoCs provides structure and specific examples for planning and responding to Influenza, Coronavirus, and other infectious diseases](#)
- [Non-Congregate Approaches to Sheltering for COVID-19 Homeless Response](#)
- Frequently Asked Questions on [CoC](#) and [ESG](#) funds during the pandemic
- [Visit the SNAPS Disease Risks and Homelessness page for a full list of COVID-19 infectious disease prevention and response resources](#)

If you're having trouble viewing these links, please visit the HUD Exchange website listed here:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/news/covid-19-prevention-and-response-for-homeless-providers-daily-resource-digest/>

### **Office Hours Series:**

HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) invites homeless assistance providers and their partners to participate in weekly Office Hours sessions (**Friday's at 2:30 p.m.**) to discuss COVID-19 planning and response. Presenters from federal agencies and their partners are available for a live question and answer session. [Join this Friday's HUD Office Hours Series and see previous recordings.](#)

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## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

- [Interim Guidance for Homeless Service Providers to Plan and Respond to COVID-19](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Responding to COVID-19 among People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness](#)
- [Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations](#)

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## National Health Care for the Homeless Council (HCH):

### **Town Hall Series:**

COVID-19 Town Hall series (**Friday's from 1-2 p.m.**) consists of weekly one-hour sessions with presenters from the HCH front lines bringing health care providers and homeless advocates a chance to hear best practices, ask questions, and engage in discussions on this fast-moving pandemic. Register

for the HCH Town Hall Series by visiting <https://nhchc.org/webinars/>.

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### **Coalition for Homeless Youth & Point Source Youth:**

The Coalition for Homeless Youth is sending out daily updates on beds and services for NYC runaway and homeless youth. To stay informed, please subscribe by emailing [info@nychy.org](mailto:info@nychy.org).

The purpose of doing these daily updates is so that youth experiencing homelessness have access to the most current information. It is now more important than ever to try to get as many youth housed and off the streets as possible.

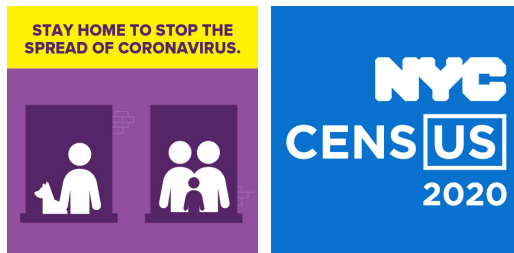
Please note, before you make a referral to one of the shelter programs, please call to confirm availability as things change frequently. Additionally, if there is an issue with your program's information, or you have an update you would like reflected, please let us know.

### ***Point Source Youth Webinar Series:***

Registration is open for free COVID-19 weekly webinars, streaming live every **Wednesday at 2 p.m.** EDT. Each week Point Source Youth will connect leading experts across relevant fields in the country to the National Youth Homelessness Community to present key updates on the novel Coronavirus and to, most importantly, answer questions. To register for the Webinar Series, visit the the "COVID-19 Support" page on the PSY website.

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**Please click the icons below to learn more:**



## Send Us Your Feedback!

The NYC CoC is committed to providing useful information to the community. We want to hear from community members like you. Follow us at [nychomeless.com](http://nychomeless.com) and let us know what you think about our messaging. Your feedback makes us better.

Thank you.  
NYC CoC

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